

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**Attorney's Docket No.
203-0125

As a below named inventor, we hereby declare:
Our residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to our name;

We verily believe we are the original, first and sole inventors or an original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter that is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

AUTOMOTIVE TAILGATE WITH LIFT ASSIST SYSTEM - I

the specification of which is attached hereto.

We have reviewed and understand the contents of the specification identified above, including the claims.

We acknowledge our duty to disclose information of which we are aware that is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Section 1.56(a), Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations; and as to application for patents or inventor's certificate on the invention filed in any country foreign to the United States of America, prior to this application by us or our legal representatives or assigns,

☒ no such applications have been filed, or

☐ such applications have been filed as follows:

☐ I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	DATE OF FILING (month, day, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (month, day, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional provisional application numbers are listed on a supplemental priority data sheet PTO/SB/02B attached hereto.

We hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s) or § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

(Application Number) (Filing Date) (Status - patented, pending, abandoned)

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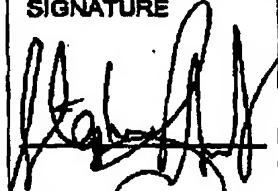
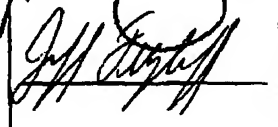
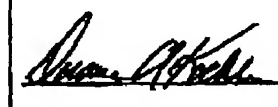
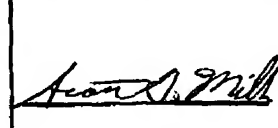


POWER OF ATTORNEY: - I/we hereby appoint the following Practitioners: Customer No. 32242, Jerome R. Drouillard - 28,008, as my/our attorney(s) or agent(s) to prosecute the application identified above, and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office and all foreign Patent Offices.

Bejin (Revised)

Address all correspondence and telephone calls to: Customer No. 32242,

Jerome R. Drouillard
Dykema Gossett PLLC
315 East Eisenhower Parkway, Suite 100
Ann Arbor, MI 48108
Phone: (734) 214-7670

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS OF INVENTOR:	RESIDENCE	CITIZENSHIP	SIGNATURE	DATE
Stephen Lewis Bruford 7122 Cedar Bank West Bloomfield, MI. 48324	West Bloomfield, Michigan	Great Britain		7/9/03
Jeffrey Alan Firziuff 517 Walnut Avenue Royal Oak, MI. 48073	Royal Oak, Michigan	United States		7/15/03
Duane A. Koehler 38584 Tuscany Court Livonia, MI. 48154	Livonia, Michigan	United States		7-9-03
Scott G. Miller 48183 Royal Pointe Drive Canton, MI. 48187	Canton, Michigan	United States		7/15/03
Ed Rybarczyk 6988 Mckean Road, #84 Ypsilanti, MI. 48197	Ypsilanti, Michigan	United States		
Glenn VanGelderem 6049 Glen Eagles Drive West Bloomfield, MI. 48323	West Bloomfield, Michigan	United States		7-9-03

Bqjin (Revised)


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JUL 09 2003 13:22 FR S BRUFORD TT BODY 3138455995 TO 917342147696 P. 03/07

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Glenn VanGelderren 6049 Glen Eagles Drive West Bloomfield, MI. 48323	West Bloomfield, Michigan	United States		

Bejin (Revised)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Bruford et al
Serial No. 10/604,075
Filed: June 25, 2003
For: AUTOMOTIVE TAILGATE WITH LIFT ASSIST SYSTEM - I
Group Art Unit: To be assigned
Examiner: To be assigned
Attorney Docket No.: 203-0125

STATEMENT OF GLENN VANGELDEREN

Glenn VanGeldereren states as follows:

1. I am employed with Ford Motor Company, in Dearborn, Michigan.
2. I am a co-inventor of the invention described and claimed in the application entitled "Automotive Tailgate With Lift Assist System - I" (Application No. 10/604,075, filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 25, 2003).
3. Due to a clerical error, my name was omitted from the original declaration filed with the subject application. This error and the subsequent omission occurred without any deceptive intention on either my part or the part of the persons named as inventors in this Application.

Glenn VanGeldereren



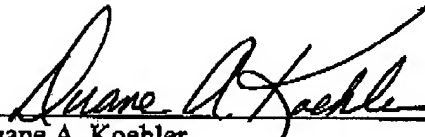
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Filed: June 25, 2003
For: AUTOMOTIVE TAILGATE WITH LIFT ASSIST SYSTEM - I
Group Art Unit: To be assigned
Examiner: To be assigned
Attorney Docket No.: 203-0125

STATEMENT OF DUANE A. KOEHLER

Duane A. Koehler states as follows:

1. I am employed with Ford Motor Company, in Dearborn, Michigan.
2. I am a co-inventor of the invention described and claimed in the application entitled "Automotive Tailgate With Lift Assist System - I" (Application No. 10/604,075, filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on June 25, 2003).
3. Due to a clerical error, my name was omitted from the original declaration filed with the subject application. This error and the subsequent omission occurred without any deceptive intention on either my part or the part of the persons named as inventors in this Application.


Duane A. Koehler



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Serial No. 10/604,075
Filed: June 25, 2003
For: AUTOMOTIVE TAILGATE WITH LIFT ASSIST SYSTEM - I
Group Art Unit: To be assigned
Examiner: To be assigned
Attorney Docket No.: 203-0125

CONSENT TO CORRECT INVENTORSHIP

Thomas J. DeZure states as follows:

1. I am an Assistant Secretary of Ford Global Technologies, LLC (hereinafter "Ford Global").
2. Ford Global is the assignee of the U.S. patent application 10/604075.
3. Ford Global hereby consents to correction of the inventorship of record for this application, by the addition of Messrs. Duane Koehler and Glen VanGelderen.

Thomas J. DeZure